

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 SS-05 ISO-00 SSO-00 /009 R

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DRAFTED BY ARA/LA:GECHAFIN:GMR

APPROVED BY ARA:GECHAFIN

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TO NAVFAC ELEUTHERA

INFO AMEMBASSY NASSAU IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 201419

LIMDIS, FOR ASST SECRETARY ROGERS

FOL REPEAT SOFIA 1777 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO

MEXICO BUDAPEST AUG 22

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C O N F I D E N T I A L 1777

LIMDIS

MEXICO CITY FOR AMBASSADOR FOR DUEMLING

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (INGERSOLL, ROBERT S.), PFOR, BU, HU

SUBJECT: VISIT OF DEPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL

REF: STATE 199012

1. IT IS NORMAL THAT DEPARTMENT SHOULD REVIEW PLANNED
INGERSOLL VISIT IN LIGHT OF PUERTO RICAN ISSUE IN COMMITTEE
OF TWENTY-FOUR. THE SINGLE ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF CANCELLING
THE VISIT HAS MUCH TO BE SAID FOR IT AND I WILL NOT COMMENT
ON IT SINCE IT IS OBVIOUS. HOWEVER, THE ARGUMENTS AGAINST
CANCELLING MAY BE LESS OBVIOUS AND I SHOULD THEREFORE LIKE
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TO SET SOME OF THEM FORTH:

2. IT IS PART OF NORMAL RELATIONS THAT ONE DISCUSSES NOT ONLY POINTS OF AGREEMENT BUT ALSO POINTS OF DISAGREEMENT. IT WOULD THUS BE SALUTARY FOR OUR RELATIONS IF THE SUBJECT OF BULGARIA'S PERFORMANCE IN THE COMMITTEE OF 24 WERE BROUGHT UP BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY WHILE HE IS HERE AS AN OBSTACLE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS SO EAGERLY SOUGHT BY BULGARIA.

3. REBUFFS TO THE BULGARIANS DURING THE YEARS WHEN WE HAD A WHOLE LIST OF GRIEVANCES AGAINST THEM WERE UNDERSTANDABLE; BUT AS REPORTED BULGARIA HAS SYSTEMATICALLY REMOVED MOST OF THEM DURING THE LAST YEAR OR SO IN ATTEMPTS TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH US.

4. THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF RECENT REBUFFS TO BULGARIA EVEN AFTER SOME OF THE GRIEVANCES MENTIONED IN PARA 3 ABOVE HAD BEEN REMOVED: NOTABLE AMONG THESE WERE OUR LONG DELAY IN ACCEPTING THE POPOV VISIT, THE INABILITY OF THAT VICE PREMIER TO DELIVER A MESSAGE FROM HIS PRESIDENT TO OUR PRESIDENT, DELAY IN RESPONDING TO A COMMUNICATION FROM ZHIVKOV, AND INABILITY OF THE PRESIDENT TO SEE HIM IN HELSINKI.

5. BULGARIA IS THE ONLY EE COUNTRY THAT HAS NEVER BEEN VISITED BY AN AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE. IN RECENT YEARS THERE HAVE BEEN SECSTATE VISITS TO HUNGARY AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN 1972 AND 1973, AND OF COURSE AT LEAST FOUR SUCH VISITS TO POLAND AND ROMANIA. (I AM NOT COUNTING ALBANIA, BUT WE HAVE NO DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH IT; NOR EAST GERMANY, WITH WHICH WE ESTABLISHED RELATIONS ONLY RECENTLY.)

6. I THINK THE BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT IS QUITE AWARE THAT IT DOES NOT OCCUPY A FAVORED POSITION WITH US; AND GOING THROUGH WITH THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT WOULD STILL LEAVE IT SECURELY IN LAST PLACE IN TERMS OF THE INTENSITY WITH WHICH WE ARE PURSUING OUR RELATIONS WITH EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES (ALWAYS EXCEPTING

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ALBANIA, OF COURSE).
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Message Attributes

Automatic DecapTIONing: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 AUG 1975
DecapTION Date: 28 MAY 2004
DecapTION Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE201419
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GECHAFIN:GMR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750292-0109
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750823/aaaaatqi.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 199012
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 SEP 2003 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF DEPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL
TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, BU, HU, US, (INGERSOLL, ROBERT S)
To: NAVFAC ELEUTHERA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006